

REPORT OF THE FINANCE LABOR SUBCOMMITTEE

February 23, 2006

The Honorable,
The Board of Commissioners of Cook County

ATTENDANCE

Present: Chairman Murphy, Vice Chairman Moreno, Commissioners Hansen, Maldonado and Sims (5)

Absent: Commissioners Butler and Gorman (2)

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Your Finance Labor Subcommittee of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County met pursuant to notice on Thursday, February 23, 2006, at the hour of 1:30 P.M. in the Board Room, Room 569, County Building, 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois.

Your Subcommittee has considered the following items and, upon adoption of this report, the recommendations are as follows:

275469 A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM THAT WILL REUNITE FAMILIES AND MEMORIALIZE THE ILLINOIS CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO URGE THE PASSAGE OF PRIVATE BILL HR 3856 IN THE U.S. HOUSE, AND TO URGE THE INTRODUCTION AND PASSAGE IN THE U.S. SENATE AND ITS SIGNING BY PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH (PROPOSED RESOLUTION). Sponsored by Roberto Maldonado, Joan Patricia Murphy, John P. Daley, Joseph Mario Moreno and Larry Suffredin, County Commissioners.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the United States has an undocumented population of eleven million immigrants, including half a million in Illinois, more than 300,000 of whom reside in Cook County; and

WHEREAS, U.S. citizen children who are born to a U.S. citizen or legal resident parent and an undocumented parent who faces deportation have become innocent victims of our inhumane immigration laws; and

WHEREAS, hard working immigrants who are employed in the underground system of undocumented labor, which has existed for over a century in this nation with the willing participation of business, religious and community institutions and many sectors of government, are being deported and separated from their U.S. citizen families; and

WHEREAS, 35 Illinois families, primarily from Cook County, have joined together on behalf of their 100 U.S. citizen children and U.S. citizen spouses to fight for the right of family reunification, waging a public campaign known as “La Familia Latina Unida” to save their families and other families throughout the nation from being torn apart by our broken immigration laws; and

WHEREAS, Congressman Bobby Rush, with the support of Congressman Luis Gutierrez, Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky, and Congressman John Conyers, has introduced private bill HR 3856 to confer legal status on the mothers or fathers of these 35 families who have suffered, or will suffer, irreparable emotional and financial harm, and to allow for their permanent unification; and

WHEREAS, HR 3856 represents a consensus on the protection and preservation of family unity in the ongoing debate on the comprehensive reform of U.S. immigration laws.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the President and the Members of the Cook County Board of Commissioners do hereby support comprehensive immigration reform that will reunite families and memorialize the Illinois Congressional delegation to urge the passage of private bill HR 3856 in the U.S. House, and to urge the introduction and passage in the U.S. Senate and its signing by President George W. Bush; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this Resolution be delivered to the President of the United States, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President of the Senate, the Majority and Minority Leaders of the Senate, the Minority Leader of the House, and the Illinois Congressional Delegation.

***Referred to the Committee on Finance Labor Subcommittee on
February 1, 2006.**

Chairman Murphy asked leave to be listed as a sponsor on the above Item.

Chairman Murphy asked the Secretary to the Board to call upon the registered public speakers.

1. George Blakemore – Concerned Citizen
2. Rodolfo and Isabel Benitez – Concerned Citizens
3. Araceli Barrios – Concerned Citizen

Commissioner Maldonado, seconded by Vice Chairman Moreno, moved the approval of Communication No. 275469. The motion carried.

Commissioner Maldonado moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Sims. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Finance Labor Subcommittee

Joan Patricia Murphy, Chairman

Attest:

Michelle Harris, Secretary